

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25, 28 and 29 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28 are amended, claims 18, 19 and 22 are canceled, and claim 29 is added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Bergin in the July 12, 2007 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. Election of Species Requirement

In response to the Election of Species Requirement in the Office Action, Applicants elect Species A shown in Fig. 2, with traverse. Independent claim 2 and dependent claims 16, 17 and 29 read on the elected species. Applicants respectfully submit that the Election of Species Requirement is improper on the ground that the Examiner has examined all pending claims. Applicants also respectfully submit that claim 2 is generic to all species. Upon the allowance of claim 2, claims 3, 11, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28 should be rejoined and allowed based at least on the dependence of these claims from claim 2, as well as on the additional features recited in these claims.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Office Action rejects claims 2, 3, 11, 16-25 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The rejections of canceled claims 18, 19 and 22 are moot. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28. Applicants have amended claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28 to obviate the rejection. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103

The Office Action rejects claims 2, 3, 11 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over KR 2001-0002053 (KR 053), which was submitted to the Patent Office in the June 14, 2006 Information Disclosure Statement for this application. The Office Action rejects claims 16-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over KR 053. The rejection of canceled claims 18, 19 and 22 is moot. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28.

Fig. 1 of KR 053 discloses an initiator comprising a pair of electrodes 21, a holder 30 that holds an ignition mixture 50, and a stainless steel outer frame 40 having a central opening through which the powder holder 30 ruptures upon ignition of a charge composition 60 and ignition mixture 50. Below the opening of the outer frame 40, a section of the powder holder 30 has a reduced thickness shown as a scoring line 31. The Office Action asserts that the scoring line 31 corresponds to the "rupture accelerating means" recited in original independent claim 2.

As tentatively agreed in the personal interview, KR 053 fails to disclose or suggest an initiator having a capsule with a tubular side portion comprising at least two grooves formed in the tubular side portion that accelerate rupture of the tubular side portion and that propagate the flame in at least two different directions upon ignition of the initiating explosive, as recited in independent claim 2.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of all of the features recited in at least independent claim 2 is neither taught nor suggested by KR 053. Further, claims 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28, as well as new claim 29, are also neither taught nor suggested by KR 053 for at least the respective dependence of these claims, directly or indirectly, from allowable claim 2, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of the claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2, 3, 11, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23-25 and 28 over KR 053 are respectfully requested. Applicants also respectfully request allowance of new dependent claim 29.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: July 16, 2007

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